

Candidates were asked to answer the following questions: 1) What would you identify as the opportunities and limitations of this position? 2) What do you see as your most important objectives for the upcoming term? 3) What do you anticipate being the biggest challenges for the upcoming term? 4) What do you identify as unique concerns to your district and how would you address those issues?

— LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE —

Lane Community College Board of Education has primary authority for establishing policies governing the operation of the college and for adopting the college's annual budget. The board's charge is to oversee the development of programs and services that board members believe will best serve the needs of the people of the Lane Community College district.

The Lane Community College District serves a 5,000 square-mile area stretching from the Pacific Ocean to the Cascade Mountains. The district includes most of Lane County.

Seven elected, non-paid persons comprise the board of education and have primary authority for establishing policies governing the operation of the college and adopting the college's annual budget. Their charge is to oversee the development of programs and services which they believe will best serve the needs of the people of the Lane District.

Board positions represent geographical zones, with Zone 1 consisting of western Lane County. In this election, three candidates are running for Director Zone 1: Mark Boren, Thomas Jennings and incumbent Holli Johnson, who was appointed in March.

Learn more at www.lanecol.edu.

— BOREN —

Mark Boren grew up in the Bethel School District, graduating from Willamette High School in 1986. He met his wonderful wife in P.E. class, and they have been together for the past 38 years.

The family moved to Veneta about 30 years ago and raised 5 children that all went through the Fern Ridge School District.

Boren began his career in the fire service as a volunteer with what was then called Lane County Fire District #1 in 1997. He retired in 2018 after 15 years as the training officer and currently works part-time as the recruitment/retention coordinator for what is now Lane Fire Authority.

He is proud to say that his son is currently volunteering with the fire

authority and three of his daughters volunteered in the past.

Before working for Lane Fire Authority, Boren worked for 15 years in special education as an instructional assistant for the Lane ESD. He worked at Willamette High School, Thurston High School and Cal Young Middle School.

In his spare time, Boren enjoys spending time with his family and attending athletic events around Lane County.

"I hope I can earn your support," he said.

1. Most public entity boards are tasked to do three things; hire the president, chief or superintendent; dictate policy; and approve the budget. These tasks provide both opportunities and limitations.

2. I believe the most important objective is to help the administration ascertain a solution to recoup the students that did not enroll this past year.

3. I believe the biggest challenge would be to maintain current programs and have the vision to foresee future programs that will serve the ever-changing work force.

4. Providing the programs that will entice high school graduates to attend Lane Community College. LCC is primed to support the Career Technical Education needs of the ever-growing programs in the local school district. This need will grow even more in the near future.

I can see more partnerships with local business and organizations such as Connected Lane County that have programs like Elevate and LaneStem.

— JENNINGS —

Thomas Jennings has been a Flor-

DIRECTOR POSITION 6 AT-LARGE

Three candidates



Mark Boren



Thomas Jennings



Holli Johnson

ence resident for majority of his life. It's where he and his wife have raised their five children.

Jennings has experience with coastal community colleges, having attended both Southwestern Oregon Community College and LCC at the Florence campus right out of high school.

He is a graduate of the Pacific Inside Joint Apprenticeship Trust program in Coos Bay as a licensed General Journeyman Electrician.

What are the most important objectives for the upcoming term?

My objective would be to make sure a balance is maintained between not only the important traditional college classes, but also classes that create access to trades, job skills and business growth.

What do you anticipate being the biggest challenge?

Navigating the challenges of COVID-19 will be the biggest immediate challenge. Beyond that, getting students that need it, the opportunity to attend classes on campus safely.

— JOHNSON —

Holli Johnson was appointed to the LCC Board on March 3.

She said in her application, "As a woman of color living in a predominantly white community, it is my goal to represent all ethnic groups in an equitable and just fashion."

Johnson has worked in education for 25 years. She currently coordinates the African American/Black Student Success Program for Lane ESD, serving 16 K-12 school districts in Lane County, since 2019. Before that she worked at the University of Oregon for 13 years in the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships.

She has previous board experience on the Oregon Association of Financial Aid Administrators. She is also current chair for the Education Committee of the Eugene-Springfield NAACP and is the educational director at St. Mark CME Church in Eugene.

A community college graduate, Johnson holds a Master of Education in Adult Education and Higher Learning from Oregon State University; a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of Oregon; and an Associate of Arts in Sociology from San Diego City College.

1. As the first African American to be appointed to the LCC Board of Education, it means that our community has made a commitment to include diversity in the decision-making process. As the only person of color on the board, I am excited to be a part of a great opportunity to support the academic endeavors for members of this community. I have set a precedence at LCC and I would like for other ladies of minority descent to follow in my footsteps and step up to the plate to serve.

There are only a few limitations that worry me about serving in this position. When there are only 1 or 2 people of color in the room, there are not enough voices at the table who share the same values which could cause the

vote to be swayed. I represent the minority population, but I alone cannot make change happen. For example, my voice alone is not enough to represent a historically underrepresented group in this community. We need more representation.

2. If elected, I commit to making the best-informed decisions based on my values, experience and lived experiences in this community. I vow to learn how the legislative process plays an important role at LCC. I want to learn how to become a better advocate for student success and how to be a trusted trustee on this board. I will respect the input I receive from community members and I want to grow as a trusted leader for school improvement.

3. I anticipate that my valued outcomes may not be that of others and I expect that the decisions of the Board will be criticized. I will use these outcomes to invite other persons of color to step up and join me as we try to exercise a more informed decision process from different perspectives.

4. Affordable education during a national pandemic concerns me for members of my district. It is standard practice for college tuition to increase every year, but I am happy to report that LCC is taking every measure to assure that emergency funds are being used to offset some of the additional costs that will be incurred by students going forward.

The board of education at LCC plays an integral part on the increase of tuition hikes, but we also support student success and together we make informed decisions as they pertain to best outcomes.

Another concern is that as we go through these tough times, some programs will be cut I expect that the board will be faced with some tough decisions about which programs should be sustained and which programs should be scaled back.

I value adult & continuing ed programs and I will use my voting powers to vote against their abolishment and I vow to help keep those programs alive.

SIALS from page 9A

Most recently, Martindale served on the board of directors for the Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County, serving the last three years as board president.

Martindale and his wife, Randy, have three grown children and two grandchildren. Larry enjoys hunting and fishing and is active in his church.

1. In my recent work with the Boys and Girls Club, I know that our kids are struggling and I have solid ideas for how we can do better. We have the opportunity to raise the bar with leadership, oversight and strong partnerships with faculty, families and our community. We are limited and guided of course by rigorous state and federal guidelines, but within that framework, we must start looking at what we CAN do instead of what we cannot and fully utilize any local control that still remains.

Keeping our kids the focus, we can be bold and innovative. Good enough isn't good enough. Our kids deserve our best.

2. My role as a board member will be to provide leadership and oversight to educate and prepare students for success. Family, Faculty and Facilities are vital components to achieve this objective.

Family: Parents and family units must have a place at the table for open conversations about educational goals and should be respected and listened to for their perspectives.

Faculty: Our faculty is the key ingredient for the magic that can happen in our schools.

High quality academic programs are essential to prepare all students for a global society and our faculty is key to this outcome.

Facilities: Students, staff and the public need safe schools that also meet educational needs with cutting edge technology. Creative, common sense problem-solving is essential and we should explore immediate solutions to things like our high school heating and cooling issues and safe, friendly entry points at our schools, and also

long-term facility needs.

3. The district's greatest challenge will be to create a school culture that focuses on academic excellence and preparing our kids for lifetime success, especially in this post-COVID environment. Too many of our students are falling behind and giving up on school.

With the exception of reading/writing at the high school, the Oregon test scores for elementary, middle and high school are in the bottom 50%. Students are passed from one grade to the next without academic skills to be successful at the next grade level. It is difficult to find placements for students who are one to three years behind. As a board member, I can provide leadership and oversight in solving this issue. The administration, staff and community can work together to find solutions. One of my objectives will be to ensure that all students be at grade level in reading, writing and mathematics before they exit 5th grade.

4. Emerging from COVID, we are embarking on a new era for Siuslaw schools. When you look at buying a home via Zil-

low, our Siuslaw school rankings are 3/10 for elementary and middle and 5/10 for high school. Educational and lifetime success of our students is all of our goal but too often we operate as if we are adversaries; we fear transparency and input is not welcome. Staff, administration, families and our community need to link arms to help our kids achieve.

We must be willing to dig deep and identify our strengths and weaknesses, then we can determine our priorities and ensure those priorities get priority resources. For example, we have a tremendously talented and generous community who we can engage for vocational, trades and professional experiences and for feedback on what we offer students, and how to ready them for their next tier of education or employment.

— SNEDDON —

Kady Sneddon is a local business member.

It is our responsibility to bring our kids through this pandemic year with strength, vision, accountability and a plan.

When I graduated from Siuslaw High School, the times were different, but the dedication to our serving students and providing high quality education hasn't changed. I will support policies that allow schools to respond to their challenges creatively and collaboratively across the district.

As a small business owner enduring the pandemic, I'm experienced in managing budgets and staff, making tough decisions, and problem-solving with other business leaders and stakeholders to find solutions under significant constraint. I am a collaborative, calm and collected person and I welcome the challenge of making sure that everyone's voices are heard and that we all have a chance to work together for a better future.

Our priorities must include:

- Providing sound fiscal oversight to ensure tax dollars are spent correctly and effectively.
- Working with our community to establish access to quality childcare
- Working with the superintendent and statewide leaders

to understand the impacts and education gaps stemming from COVID-19.

- Establishing high quality CTE opportunities and STEM curriculum.
- Addressing technological inequalities for educators and students.
- Giving students, families, teachers and staff a voice.

As a mother to a first grader, I see an unfortunate lack of representation on the Board of Directors from both women and parents of school-aged children. Equal representation is paramount for a bright future and the health of our school district.

I would love to have your support and your vote this May!

Support Lane County 4-H and Extension

**Youth, Forestry,
Agriculture, Gardening,
Food Preservation
Safety & Nutrition**

**SUPPORT
BALLOT
#20-319**



Contact: Leigh Rieder
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www.friendsofextensionlane.org




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**ELECT LARRY
MARTINDALE**
Siuslaw School Board
Position 6

**I would love to connect with you
and hear your thoughts.
Call or email me and I will get back
with you. 541-590-0230.
larrymartindale30@gmail.com**

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF LARRY MARTINDALE.





"Now more than ever we need Larry Martindale's experience and leadership for our district. These are tough times and our kids need our best."
~Vicki Rankin, 25 year
Siuslaw Elementary Teacher


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VOTE!

BY MAY 18TH

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**BY
MAY 18TH**

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